Drive-in for
COFFEE
8 AM - 11 AM & 5 PM - 10 PM
HOTEL
SIDDHARTA
NAZARABAD, MYSURU PH: 2522999

STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

Vol. 43 No. 288 Pages: 12 Rs. 2.00
Ph: 2496520 / 21 / 23 Fax: 2496530
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MYSURU Monday 14th December 2020
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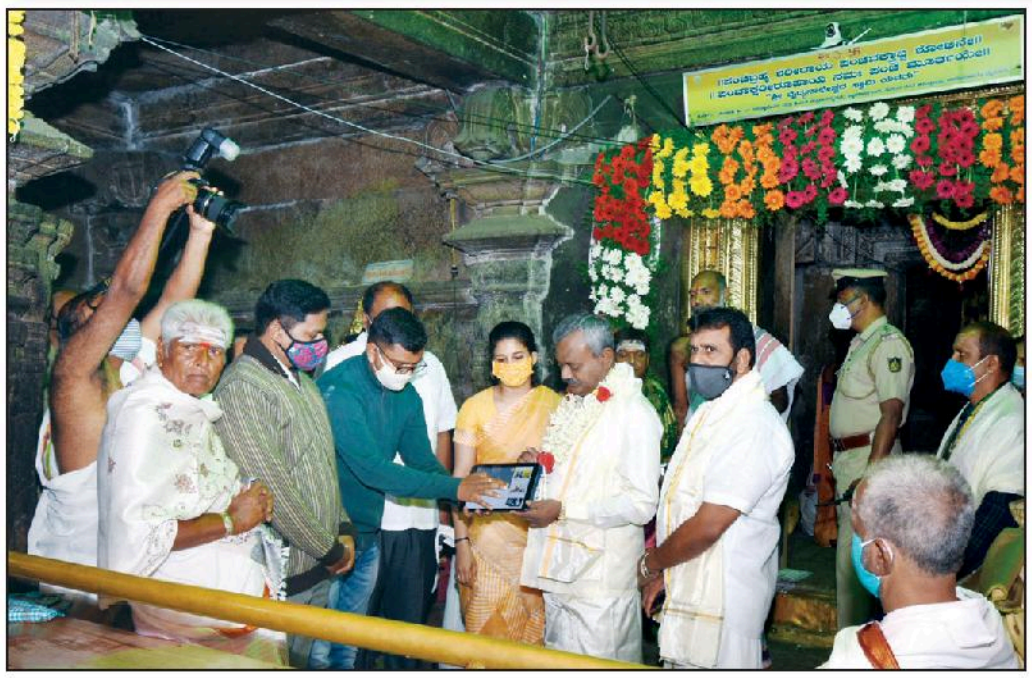
Virtual start for Talakad Panchalinga Darshana

Last time the event was held in 2013, the next *Panchalinga Darshana* will take place in 2033 when five *Shravana* Saturdays and five *Karthika* Mondays fall in a year.



District Minister S.T. Somashekar seen during virtual start of** Panchalinga Darshana Mahotsava **early this morning at Talakad as MLA L. Nagendra, Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri and others look on. Picture right shows local devotees on way to the temple.

Mysuru, Dec.14 (MTY&DM)- The special *Panchalinga Darshana* at Talakad in T. Narasipur taluk of Mysuru district got off to a virtual start early this morning with the performance of *Mahapuja, Mahabhisheka* and other rituals associated with ten-day *Panchalinga Darshana Mahotsava*, in the presence of District Minister S.T. Somashekar and a host of officials.

The *Panchalinga Darshana* takes place in the years where five *Shravana* Saturdays and five *Karthika* Mondays fall. The last *Panchalinga Darshana* at Talakad was held in 2013.

The special *darshana* began amid COVID-19 protocol, with *Mahanyasapoorvaka Rudrabhisheka* and 11 other types of *Abhishekas* simultaneously at all the five temples that form the *Panchalingas* — Vaidyanatheshwara, Arkanatheshwara, Pathaleshwara, Maraleshwara and Mallikarjuneshwara — as early at 4.30 am in the auspicious *Vruschika Lagna* of *Kuhuyoga Jyestha Nakshatra.*

While Vaidyanatheshwara, Pathaleshwara and Maraleshwara temples are located at Talakad, the other two temples — Arkanatheshwara and Mudukuthore Mallikarjuneshwara — are located at Vijayapura, about 5 kms from Talakad.

Although the ten-day *Panchalinga Darshana Mahotsava* began officially on Dec.10 for facilitating pre-*Panchlinga Darshana* rituals, the event got off to a formal start today on the fifth *Karthika* Monday, which also happens to be *Amavasya* (New Moon). The *darshana* will conclude on Dec.19.

(See TALAKAD on page 6)

Contract UGD workers stage protest in front of MCC

Mysuru, Dec. 14 (RK&SD)- The contract Underground Drainage (UGD) workers of Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) staged a demonstration in front of MCC office in city this morning seeking regularisation of all 231 contract Pourakarmikas (Safai Karmacharis).

The demonstrators shouted slogans and urged the civic body to scrap the contract system and also to pay breakfast allowance to them just like regular Pourakarmikas.

Pourakarmika leader N. Mara, Srinivas, UGD Workers Association President Palani, Kumaraswamy and 150 other workers took part.

Volte-face by striking KSRTC Unions; buses still off roads

Mysuru/Bengaluru, Dec. 14 (MTY&BCT)- Hours after withdrawing four-day strike and deciding to resume bus services, Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) employees late on Sunday night took a U-turn and decided to continue the protest till all their demands were met by the Government.

"As our main demand to treat us as Government employees has not been met, we will continue the strike," KSRTC Employees' Union Secretary R. Chandru told workers at Freedom Park in Bengaluru. The KSRTC employees have been staging a sit-in demonstration at Freedom Park since last Thursday.

High drama prevailed last evening as the protesting leaders and employees, after claiming that they had received a "positive response" from the Government, did a volte-face when they arrived at Freedom Park where protesters were holding a hunger strike.

(See KSRTC on page 6)

CLEARANCE SALE
FLAT 70% OFF
on Sarees, Salwar Kameez and Dress Materials
at RESHAM UDYOG, Zoo Garden Main Road

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Monday 14th December 2020

Vision Group on Science and Technology confers

Award for Research Publication

Mysuru, Dec. 14- Dr. Shobith Rangappa, faculty member of Adichunchanagiri University, has been honoured with "Award for Research Publication (ARP)."

Dr. Shobith Rangappa

This award, conferred by Vision Group on Science and Technology (VGST), Government of Karnataka, is given in recognition of scientific research contribution in the previous year. ARP is instituted by VGST to nourish science research in Karnataka.

The Award Selection Committee was chaired by *Bharat Ratna* Prof. C.N.R. Rao.

Dr. Shobith obtained his Ph.D from Hokkaido University, Japan and currently he is serving as the Director of Adichunchanagiri Institute for Molecular Medicine, Adichunchanagiri University, B.G. Nagar, Mandya district.

He has published over 60 research papers and holding five patents in the area of cancer therapeutics and drug discovery.

He was awarded Prof. R.C. Shah Memorial Award in 2019 by Indian Science Congress Association in recognition of his scientific merit.

Co-op. Societies to hold virtual Annual General Body Meetings

Mysuru, Dec. 14- The virtual Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) of **Karnataka State College Lecturers and School Teachers Housing Co-operative Society Ltd.** will take place virtually (online) at the Society office located on third cross, Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar Marga, Gurukula Layout, Mysuru, at 11 am on Dec. 20. Society President Dr. M.S. Mahadevaswamy will preside over the meeting.

The AGM of **The Mysore City Co-operative Housing Society Ltd.**, having office on Chamaraja Double Road, K.R. Mohalla, will take place virtually at 3 pm on Dec. 20. Society President N. Srinivas will preside. The members of the Society are asked to attend the meeting by logging on to the website *www.tmcchsltd.com* at 2.50 pm on Dec. 20. For details, contact Ph: 0821-2448947.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

Shavasana is regarded as the king of asanas. Physical and mental relaxation achieved by Shavasana is unparallelled. The Shavasana technique relies on the premise that for optimum relaxation of muscles of the body, prior stretching of muscles is necessary. The stretching must be just enough to create a pleasant sensation. The awareness of an individual doing this exercise must be focussed on the process of stretching and relaxation. In Shavasana, progressive deep relaxation is achieved by stretching and relaxation exercises of the body while staying aware. Shavasana practice begins with bringing one's awareness onto one's body. Normally, our mind has a tendency to wander. Bringing awareness to the body and keeping it there is the vital step. And if the mind wanders, without undue force gently bring it back to the body.

Shavasana helps you progress spiritually and empowers you not only to meet daily challenges with detachment but also to live a rewarding and fulfilling life. All challenges we face today started with a consciousness that had forgotten our essential connection to the larger whole. At this crucial time in the evolution of humanity, we are beginning to learn how to reconnect with ourselves, with each other and with Earth. Shavasana and meditation are tools to cultivate a sense of oneness and facilitate the birth of a new age, a new individual. — *Ramesh I. Kapadia in The Times of India*

NEWS SPARKLERS

The loneliest house in the world

Ellirey: Photos of a mysterious solitary white house on the side of a green hill, on a small, deserted island surrounded by ocean as far as the eye can see have been doing the rounds on the internet for years, earning the place the unofficial title of "loneliest house in the world." The Vestmannaeyjar archipelago consists of a cluster of small islands off the southern coast of Iceland. Elliðaey (or Ellirey) is the most northeastern of these islands, and home to the iconic single house siting alone on a grassy, sloping pasture. It's an idyllic place that has remained uninhabited since the 1930s, which only makes the existence of this seemingly well-maintained man-made building even more mind-boggling.

The real story is, it is actually just a hunting lodge built in the 1950s by the Elliðaey Hunting Association, whose members use it when they come to the deserted island to hunt puffins. It's unclear how the island even has a hunting association, considering no one even lives there.

The floating neighbourhood of Amsterdam

Amsterdam: Waterbuurt (Dutch for "water quarter") is a state of the art residential development in Amsterdam, which consists of nearly 100 individual floating homes moored on Lake Eimer. The floating homes of Ijburg district are no ordinary houseboats, but real floating houses. They float adjacent to jetties and are moored to steel pilons, so they only move vertically with the changing tide. Designed by Dutch architect Marlies Rohmer, the houses have a "no-nonsense, basic design" but are comfortable at the same time. They were built at a shipyard about 65 km north of Lake Eimer and then transported through a network of canals. Although the Waterbuurt is still a work in progress, some of the houses are already inhabited.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Breast milk is natural immunoglobulin given to the baby. Early initiation and exclusive breast feeding for six months guarantees a healthy baby, healthy mother, strong childhood, and healthy adulthood.

By Dr. Bhuvaneshwar - Consultant Paediatrician

COLUMBIA ASIA

COLUMBIA ASIA HOSPITAL - MYSORE

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

COVID-19 UPDATE

Mysuru

Figures as per Government Media Bulletin released last evening

Positive cases yesterday	:	42
Total positive cases	:	51,413
Discharges yesterday	:	37
Total discharges	:	50,030
Deaths yesterday	:	1
Total deaths	:	1,004
Total active cases	:	379

Mandya

Positive cases yesterday	:	15
Total positive cases	:	19,039
Total discharges	:	18,638
Total deaths	:	147
Total active cases	:	254

Chamarajanagar

Positive cases yesterday	:	19
Total positive cases	:	6,554
Total discharges	:	6,311
Total deaths	:	116
Total active cases	:	116

Kodagu

Positive cases yesterday	:	30
Total positive cases	:	5,471
Total discharges	:	5,298
Total deaths	:	68
Total active cases	:	105

Hassan

Positive cases yesterday	:	20
Total positive cases	:	27,529
Total discharges	:	26,791
Total deaths	:	387
Total active cases	:	351

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

A man is talking to God
Man: *God, how long is a million years?*
God: *To me, it's about a minute.*
Man: *God, how much is million dollars?*
God: *To me it's a penny.*
Man: *God, may I have a penny?*
God: *Wait a minute!!*

Today's Currency Rate

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 73.50
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 97.94
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.01
1 Euro	= Rs. 89.25

VOICE OF THE READER

Ring Road crying for attention

Sir,

I was nonplussed to read that Mysuru was gearing up for seven-star rating in garbage-free city category under the next *Swachh Survekshan (Star of Mysore* dated Dec.5).

My city, no doubt, is clean compared to many other cities in our country, but a lot more hard work and scrubbing is awaiting to graduate to 'seven-star.'

Compared to the spic and span roads and streets of America, Europe and the Gulf States, where do we stand? Let's not deceive ourselves with this 'star' business.

I had to renew my Driving Licence (DL) at Regional Transport Office (East) recently and took the Service Road from Columbia Asia Hospital to reach this office, which is situated next to the Ring Road.

This stretch of Ring Road is most dirty, unkempt and nauseating, to say the least. Roads are bad, weeds have overgrown in the median, mounds of dirty debris strewn all along with garbage set on fire in some places *(see pic)*. Don't know whether the street lights are switched on in the evening and whether they're functioning at all?

The story is the same, more or less, throughout the Ring Road. So, what're the officials in-charge doing? No one seems to be responsible, and for too long there isn't a proper mechanism to punish lethargic and inefficient officials.

After experiencing a harrowing time going to RTO (East) and returning home cursing, I found this 'seven-star' news item in your esteemed paper!

PS: *Some days back there was a report in Star of Mysore where the MUDA Chairman had warned of initiating legal action against those found dumping debris and wastes of any kind along the Ring Road. Is anyone penalised till now?*

—Mubasher Mirza
Bannimantap 'C' Layout
7.12.2020

ATME College awarded "Gold" Rating by QS I-GAUGE-India

Mysuru, Dec. 14- ATME College of Engineering (ATMECE), Mysuru, has been awarded "Gold" Rating by QS I-GAUGE-India, the India specific rating agency for the Quacquarelli Symonds, London.

Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings and the Higher Education Institutes Ranking have universal acceptance across the world in the fraternity of higher education institutions, corporate employers and among the student community.

The ranking was decided through rigorous and independent data collection and analysis against performance metrics as set out in the methodology.

The objective of QS I-GAUGE is to evaluate the performance of the institutions over a wide range of criteria pertaining to the system and structure of higher education in India. The QS I-GAUGE rating system scales the institution's individual performance in different aspects that has been categorised as primary and secondary.

The criterias on which ATMECE was evaluated on includes Teaching & Learning, Faculty Quality, Employability, Students Diversity, Facilities, Social Responsibilities, Accreditation, Entrepreneurship and Research. The rating is valid for a total period of three years from Dec. 2020 to Dec. 2023.

Also with receiving an overall Gold Rating, ATME has secured Diamond Rating in four primary criterias. Teaching and Learning, Employability Facilities and Social Responsibility, according to a press release.

All-new Nissan Magnite launched in city

The all-new Nissan Magnite was launched at Honnassiri Nissan Showroom in Hinkal, Mysuru, on Dec. 2 by University of Mysore (UoM) Vice-Chancellor Prof. G. Hemantha Kumar and former UoM VC Prof. K.S. Rangappa. Others seen are Honnassiri Group Managing Director L. Sunil Gowda, Dr. Shobith Rangappa, Om Srinivas, Sales Manager Jagadeesh, Service Manager Premkumar and Marketing Manager Tejasvi.

AGM of Sri Kavery Kodava Association, Mysore East held

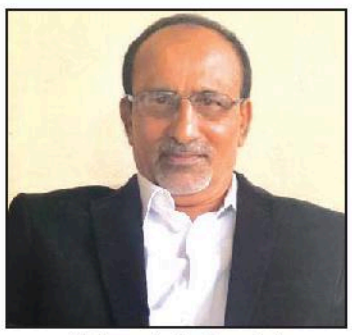
Puliyanda S. Devaiah elected as new President

A group photo of the new team of office-bearers of Sri Kavery Kodava Association, Mysore East.

Mysuru, Dec. 14- The Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) of Sri Kavery Kodava Association, Mysore East, was held at the Association premises in Vidyashankar Nagar here yesterday.

The following were elected as office-bearers and Managing Committee Members of the Association for the year 2020 - 2022: President: Puliyanda S. Devaiah, Vice-President: Pandyanda Raja Bopaiah, Hon. Secretary: Kademada M. Belliappa, Joint Secretary: Pemmanda D. Poonacha, Treasurer: Coluvanda M. Chengappa, Committee Members: Neravanda Muthappa (Sunil), Machura D. Cariappa, Pattada Sachin Devaiah, Pudiyokkada Praveen Chengappa, Pattamada T. Charmana, Pokachanda P. Narendra, Kanjithanda Manu Aiyappa, Mookalamada B. Somanna, Chimmanda P. Subbaiah, Karthamada Nalini (Sweety), Mollera A. Kavitha and Ajjamakkada Beena Cariappa.

Speaking on the occasion, Devaiah said the Kavery Kodava Association has completed



Puliyanda S. Devaiah

20 successive years and attributed its achievements over the years to the services of past six Presidents and their team of Managing Committees — Palachanda Kuttappa, Founder-President; Accapanda Kashi Kuttappa; Kanjithanda K. Aiyappa; Pudiyokkada B. Madappa; Boovadira A. Devaiah and Koppira D. Ponnappa.

Expressing his gratitude to Kalyatanda B. Ganapathy for his valuable support and guidance in all its endeavours, the new President also recalled the services of Naina Achappa as Kodagu Model School's first Correspondent; Channira T. Poovaiah as first Chairperson of the Education Council and Chowrira Seetha Kalaiah, Chairperson of the Education Council since 2010, who is instrumental in steering the institution to the present level.

The Association had a humble beginning and today there are 600 members with assets worth over crores and a turnover of over Rs. 40 lakh per annum. The Kodagu Model School run by the Association has classes from LKG to X Std., he said and added that he aims to improve the standard of the School as 'Vidyadhaana was Mahadhana.'

He also informed the General Body that the Association will offer dividends to its members in due course of time.

NEWS BRIEFS

Koodala Sangamadeva Co-op. Society AGM

The Koodala Sangamadeva Housing Co-operative Society Ltd., Mysuru, will be holding its Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) at Ganabharathi's Veene Seshanna Bhavan in Kuvempunagar tomorrow (Dec. 15) at 11.30 am. Society President K.A. Mahesha will preside, according to a release from Society CEO S. Ambareesha.

Music classes

The city's Saptaswara Hindustani Music School has invited applications from interested persons for admission to Music classes (Classical Music, Bhaktigeethe, Bhavageethe, Vachana Gayana etc.,) to be held in the premises of Nrupatunga Kannada School in Ramakrishnanagar E and F Block. The classes will take place between 4 pm and 8 pm on all days. The admission is open to persons of all ages. For details, call Mob: 94814-65048 or 94499-42734.

Public auction

The Ambassador car (KA-01-G-2785), which was being used at the Mysuru District Consumer Commission will be auctioned publicly on directions from the State Consumer Commission on Dec. 21 at 11 am at the District Consumer Commission premises in city. The car will be auctioned at the present condition and those interested to participate in the public auction can do so with certain conditions by depositing Rs. 2,000 in advance. Apart from the final bidder, the advance deposits would be returned to others on the spot and the final bidder should pay the bid amount on the spot and transport the vehicle at his/her own cost. The Chief of the District Consumer Commission has the right to approve or reject the auction, according to a press release from the District Consumer Commission Assistant Registrar and Administrative Officer.

KRS Water Level

(Maximum : 124.80 feet)

Today	119.95 ft
Yesterday	119.98 ft
Inflow	3,026 cusecs
Outflow	3,273 cusecs

Kabini Level

(Maximum : 2,284.00 feet)

Today	2,271.43 ft
Inflow	488 cusecs
Outflow	250 cusecs

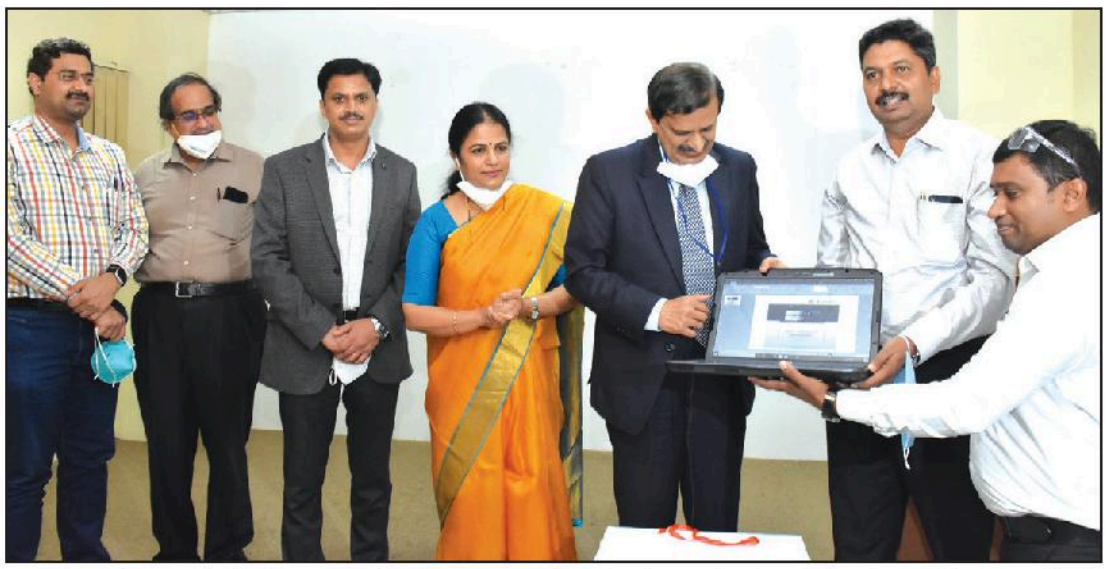
Harangi Level

(Maximum : 2,859.00 feet)

Today	2,826.17 ft
Inflow	220 cusecs
Outflow	760 cusecs

Walk at least 1,500 steps a day to beat stress: Dr. C.N. Manjunath advises docs

New website of Cauvery Heart Hospital launched



Mysuru, Dec.14 (MK&SSV)- "Walk at least 1,500 steps daily and get examined for heart and cancer regularly." This was a piece of advise given to medical practitioners by Dr. C.N. Manjunath, Cardiologist and Director, Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, Bengaluru.

Speaking after launching a new website of Cauvery Heart and Multi-Speciality Hospital on Bannur Road here on Saturday, he said doctors who work under pressure must give attention to their health too. "It was no longer an entertainment for those who were in medicine field as they have to always work under stress. If a doctor is treating patient, at least five to ten telephone calls will come from patient's side asking whether he/she will be alright or not, and request for good treatment. Under all these conditions, doctors have to treat patients. I will advise you to get checked for heart and cancer at least once in year as precaution," he added.

Dr. Manjunath said around 50 percent cardiac related problems were seen in people in the age group of 30 years to 40 years due to stress and excessive use of mobile, computer or pollution. "Sitting in one place and working for more than four hours is as dangerous as smoking four cigarettes. It is advisable to walk around whenever possible instead of sitting in one place for long hours. Walking 1,500 steps is like covering one km distance."

He said the number of diabetic and heart patients was going up in the country due to changed lifestyle. The situation was so bad that parents would take their young children to hospitals. More and more heart related ailments were reported due to air pollution. As many as 13 lakh people were dying by inhaling polluted air. The effect of polluted air was more than smoking cigarettes. This was also contributing in cases of breathlessness and cancer. "Communication between doctors and patients is very important. Treating patients smilingly will reduce tension. Cauvery Heart Hospital was emerging as one of the best hospitals in Mysuru," he noted.

Dr. K.S. Sadananda, Medical Superintendent, Jayadeva Hospital, Mysuru, Dr. G.R. Chandrashekar, Founder - Chairman, Cauvery Heart and Multi-Speciality Hospital, Dr. Sarala Chandrashekar, Managing Director, Dr. J. Rajagopal, Dr. Rajeev, Sandip Patil and others were present.

Children draw messages at public awareness campaign against crimes

Mysuru, Dec.14- As part of Crime Prevention Month, the city Police had organised pictorial messages writing by School children and College students at Jayachamaraja Wadiyar Circle (Hardinge Circle) and Dr. Sri Shivakumara Swamiji Circle on Vishwamanava Double Road here yesterday.

The event, in which select School and College students and volunteers of several organisations participated, was organised in association with the city's *Kreatement Events* and *The Thought School*.

The students drew educative messages cautioning the people against unnecessary open display of jewellery, sharing of OTP (one time password) with others, drunken driving etc.

Speaking after inaugurating the event, City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta said that people must follow advisories of the Police for their own safety and security. Noting that open display or flaunting of jewellery will attract chain snatchers and other thieves, he said that the general public must be wise enough not to share their OTP with others for any reason.

Expressing concern over rising cyber crimes, he observed that sharing of OTP was the main reason for the occurrence of such crimes as miscreants after getting the OTP, will hack the bank accounts of people who shared it within no time.

Explaining the objectives of observing Crime Prevention Month, Dr. Chandragupta called upon motorists to strictly follow road traffic rules and regulations. Warning the people against drunken driving, he said it was important for all motorists to maintain road traffic discipline. The Police Commissioner sought the co-operation of the public in making the Crime Prevention Month a huge success.

DCP (Crime and Traffic) Geetha Prasanna, ACP (Traffic) Sandesh Kumar and other Police personnel were present.

Police Control Room gets new number-112

From Saturday, the city Police Control Room (PCR) has got a new number - 112. Pointing out that the old number of 100 has been replaced by 112, Dr. Chandragupta asked the public to call 112 from now on for seeking any emergency Police services. He further said that this new number has many features that will help Police to reach the spot of crime.

The messages drawn by students appealing the people not to unnecessarily display jewellery, not to share OTP and asking the public to follow lane discipline and other traffic rules, caught the attention of public.

Eminent Sanskrit scholar

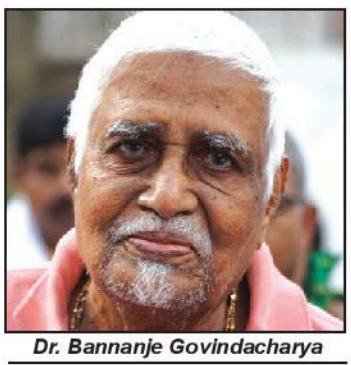
Dr. Bannanje Govindacharya passes away

Udupi, Dec. 14 - Renowned Sanskrit scholar and Padma Shree awardee Vidyavachaspati Dr. Bannanje Govindacharya died at his residence at Ambalpady in Udupi yesterday at the age of 85 due to age-related illness.

His second son Vijaya Bhushan Acharya had pre-deceased him 12 days ago. He leaves behind four daughters, one son and a host of relatives and friends.

Govindacharya was widely known for his translation and commentaries on the complete texts of Sri Madhvacharya, a philosopher and theologian of the 13th century. He was a propagator of the 'Madhva' ideology — a philosophical perspective based on 'Tattvavada' which means arguing from a realist viewpoint.

Apart from translating several literary works from Sanskrit to Kannada, Bannanje Govindacharya penned nearly 150 books.



Dr. Bannanje Govindacharya

His works are popular among Tuluvas and Kannadigas across the world. His noted translations include Kalidasa's 'Shakuntala,' Shudraka's Mrichakatika' and Bana Bhatta's 'Bana Bhattana Kadambari'. Govindacharya was also known for his expertise in Veda Bhashya, Upanishad Bhashya, Mahabharata, Ramayana, and Puranas. He was the brand ambassador of India in World Conference on Religion and Peace held at Princeton, USA in 1979.

Remembering the scholar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said Govindacharya's passion towards Sanskrit and Kannada was admirable. "His works will continue influencing future generations. Pained by his demise. Condolences to his family. Om Shanti," PM Modi wrote on Twitter.

Expressing grief, Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa said "His demise is a great loss to the Sanskrit, Kannada and Tulu literary sectors," offering condolences to his family members.

The funeral was held at Ambalapady crematorium yesterday evening with full State honours. Govindacharya's eldest son Vinaya Bhushan Acharya performed the last rites.

National anthem was played by the Police Band and the mortal remains was covered with the National Flag. A three-gun salute was also dedicated at the funeral service.

City boys drown at Varuna Canal

Mysuru, Dec. 14 (RK&KS)- Two boys from Kuvempunagar in city, who had gone for a swim to Varuna Lake near Gorur, met watery grave yesterday.

The deceased boys are Harikrishnan (15), son of Muralidharan and Vaibhav (13), son of Venkatesh, both residing at No. 353, 2nd Cross, 2nd Main at Kuvempunagar 'M' block in city.

Vaibhav's father Venkatesh, the house owner, had rented the first floor of the house to Muralidharan, while he (Venkatesh) and his family resided in the ground floor.

Yesterday, Vaibhav and Harikrishnan went cycling to the Varuna Canal near Gorur for a swim where they both drowned. While the body of

Harikrishnan and Vaibhav

Harikrishnan was fished out yesterday night, the body of Vaibhav was fished out this morning.

Post-mortem was conducted at MMC&RI mortuary today and the bodies were handed over to the family members.

Mysuru South Sub-Inspector Vanaraju, who has registered a case, is investigating.

Woman, daughter among four missing from city

Mysuru, Dec. 14 (KS) - In separate incidents, a Kodagu woman and her kid are among four persons, who have gone missing from city.

In the first case, a woman from Kodagu has gone missing along with her three-year-old daughter from city.

The missing woman and her kid have been identified as 26-year-old Latha, wife of Devaraj and their daughter Bindu, residents of Ponnampet in Kodagu.

Devaraj had come to city on Dec 7 to take his wife and daughter back to Ponnampet and before proceeding to the bus stand, they went to a hotel behind KSRTC bus stand to have food, during which Latha took the kid saying that the kid wanted to answer nature's call and went missing with her daughter since then.

In his complaint, Devaraju has accused one Praveen of taking away his wife and daughter. He

Latha and daughter Bindu

Vedavathi

Raghavendra Rao

said her wife has a tattoo with the name 'Praveen' on her left hand.

Lashkar Police, who have registered a case, are investigating. Those having any information about the missing woman and kid, may contact Lashkar Police Station on Ph: 0821-2418307.

In the second case, a 50-year-old woman, who left her house on Nov. 30 evening, has since gone missing. The missing woman is Vedavathi, residing in Alanahalli Police limits. Those having any information about the missing woman may contact Alanahalli Police Station on Ph: 0821-241834, or call Mob: 94808-02257.

In the third case, a 60-year old man has gone missing since 2015 from city.

The missing man is Raghavendra Rao, a resident of Mahadevapura near JP Nagar in city.

Raghavendra Rao, who left his home in May 2015, has not returned since then, according to a complaint lodged by his wife Nirupama at Vidyaranyapuram Police Station.

Those having any information about the missing man may contact Vidyaranyapuram Police Station on Ph: 0821- 2418122 or call City Police Control Room on Ph: 0821-2418339.

Youth killed, mother injured as goods vehicle hits auto

Mysuru, Dec. 14 (RK&KS)- A 28-year-old youth was killed while his mother sustained serious injuries when a goods vehicle rammed into the auto in which they were travelling at Mandi Mohalla yesterday night.

The deceased youth has been identified as Ravikumar, an auto driver and a resident of Maratikyathanahalli in the taluk.

Ravikumar's father Mariswamy, who had taken ill, was admitted to K.R. Hospital in city and he (Ravikumar) along with his mother had come to the hospital yesterday morning. At about 7 pm yesterday, Ravikumar, who was driving his auto with his mother on the passenger seat was proceeding to a relative's house at Mandi Mohalla to fetch food for Mariswamy, when a goods vehicle hit the auto resulting both Ravikumar and his mother sustaining serious injuries. Both were rushed to K.R. Hospital, where Ravikumar succumbed to injuries at about 8 pm. His mother was shifted to a private hospital in city for further treatment.

Post-mortem was conducted at MMC&RI mortuary this morning and Ravikumar's body was handed over to his relatives.

NR Traffic Inspector Prasanna Kumar, who has registered a case, has seized both the vehicles involved in the accident and is investigating.

Biker fractures hand in stray dogs attack

Mysuru, Dec.14- A youth was injured when his two-wheeler hit a barricade while trying to escape from a pack of stray dogs at Agrahara in city on Thursday night.

Akash Gowda, son of Nagamani, a resident of 18th Cross, Ramanuja Road is the injured person. The incident took place while he was returning home from work on his two-wheeler.

When he neared K.R. Police Station, a pack of 15 dogs attacked him suddenly and in a bid to escape from the pack of dogs, he hit a barricade, lost balance and fell down resulting in him suffering a fracture on his left hand.

Members of Karnataka Praja Party (Raitha Parva) led by Founder and State President B. Shivanna met the injured and extended financial help.

Accusing the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) of its negligence to check the menace of stray dogs, Shivanna demanded the Corporation Commissioner to pay compensation to the victim failing which, a legal battle would be launched against the MCC.

Elephant calf, separated from mother, dies at Mysuru Zoo

Mysuru, Dec. 14 (MTY&KS) - An elephant calf, which had got separated from its mother at B.R. Hills about six months ago and being taken care at Mysuru Zoo has died on Sunday.

The Forest staff, about six months ago, had rescued the 15-day-old calf, which was separated from its mother and had handed it over to the Mysuru Zoo to look after it.

The calf was responding to the care by the Zoo staff since six months, who had named it Vedavathi. But since about three-four days, the calf is said to have contracted infection and despite best efforts by Zoo Veterinarians to save the calf, its health began to deteriorate and succumbed to the infection on Sunday morning.

Obituary

Shivaiah

Mysuru, Dec. 14 - Shivaiah (80), a retired driver ay Hunsur Government Hospital and a resident of Giriyabovipalya, passed away yesterday afternoon in city.

He leaves behind his wife, three daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Giriyabovipalya Burial Grounds this afternoon.

Virtual start for Talakad *Panchalinga Darshana*

(Continued from page 1)

After the completion of all the rituals and customary pujas, the temples were opened for devotees (only locals) after 7.30 am and closed at 3pm.

As the *darshana* is restricted only for locals in the wake of pandemic, the devotees in all other places can watch the event live by logging on to the link — *https://www.youtube.com/c/Mysuruvartheilaake*

In the wake of the COVID-19 crisis, the State COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) had recommended the Government that this religious festival be conducted in a simple way observing all the traditional and ritual ceremonies. The TAC had also suggested that the event be confined to the people of the taluk and local populace only, allowing a maximum of 1,000 persons per day and 1,500 persons on the special day on Dec.14. It had also recommended that compliance of COVID-19 precautions like thermal screening, checking for COVID-19 symptoms, maintenance of physical distancing, compulsory wearing of face masks etc., is ensured.

Following a State Government direction, the Mysuru District Administration has restricted the event to only locals. Accordingly, the local devotees are being allowed entry to the temples upon producting a photo ID card and devotees from outside are not allowed. As a crowd control measure, the Police have set up check posts on all the nine roads leading to Talakad and Mudukuthore and also on pedestrian paths leading to the two places. Barricades have been erected along the bed of Cauvery river that flows close by as a safety measure. Speaking to presspersons after taking part in the *Panchalinga Darshana*, District Minister S.T. Somashekar said he was virtuous to have been part of the event that has taken place after seven years, with the last one held in 2013.

Pointing out that he has prayed the almighty to bring peace and prosperity for all and to bring an end to the deadly COVID-19 pandemic, he said that the event, which used to attract lakhs of devotees in the past, is being celebrated in a simple and symbolic manner due to the outbreak of the pandemic.

Vaidyanatheshwara temple Chief Priest Anand Dikshith, speaking to the media, said that all rituals associated with special *Panchalinga Darshana* were performed between 4.30 am and 7.30 am as per age-old customs, traditions and practices, simultaneously at all the five temples that form the cluster of *Panchalinga Darshana*. Although they sought the authorities to allow darshana till late evening on account of Amavasya, the District Administration has restricted it till 3pm. He further said that this year's event will conclude on Dec.19 and the next Talakad *Panchalinga Darshan* will take place in 2033.

MLAs L.Nagendra and Ashwin Kumar, Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri, SP C.B. Ryshyanth, Additional DC B.S. Manjunathaswamy, Assistant Commissioner Venkataraju and other officials were present.

Legend of Panchalingas

Vaidyanatheshwara: Legend has it that Talakad got its name from two Beda community members Tala and Kada, who were granted moksha by the almighty. Vaidyanatheshwara is worshipped as a form of Lord Shiva. It is widely believed that devotees will get rid of diseases and ailments if they pray at this temple.

Arkanatheshwara: This deity earned fame as the Shivalinga was worshipped by *Soorya (Sun)*. This temple is located at Vijayapura, about 5 kms eastward of Vaidyanatheshwara temple. It is believed that worshipping here will rid the people of all their problems.

Pathaleshwara: The Shivalinga here was blessed by Vasuki and hence the deity is also known as Vasukeeshwara. The temple is called Pathaleshwara as the Linga here is located deep in the ground, when compared to other Lingas. This Linga is said to change colour five times a day and is specially worshipped on Shravana Shuddha Panchami day as it is generally believed that this is the most auspicious day.

Maraleshwara: According to legend, Lord Maraleshwara has control over all the sand at Talakad. Even Brahma is said to have worshipped Lord Maraleshwara and as such the deity is also called as Saithakeshwara. Devotees believe that all their wishes will become a reality by praying to the Lord.

Mallikarjuneshwara: Lord Mallikarjuneshwara rests atop the 300 ft. high Mudukuthore Hill. Devotees believe that the almighty will grant everything that they pray for. Mudukuthore is the place where Cauvery river flows in all the four directions.

Volte-face by striking KSRTC Unions

Skeleton service operated in Mysuru amidst Police security

(Continued from page 1)

The leaders then announced that the indefinite strike will continue till the State considered them as Government employees.

Farmer leader Kodihalli Chandrashekar, who is leading the protest, also announced that the strike will continue on Monday. As the situation deteriorated, Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai lambasted Kodihalli Chandrashekar, accusing him of adopting "blackmail tactics" and misleading the employees.

"Representatives of the protesters left the Vikasa Soudha yesterday evening, saying that they received a positive response from the Government. The State Government agreed to most of their demands. But after reaching Freedom Park they changed their minds. They are doing this at the behest of an egoistic person. He is going against the interest of the general public and employees," the Minister said.

In Vikasa Soudha, the Union leaders had agreed to end the strike after holding talks with Karnataka Transport Minister Laxman Savadi, Basavaraj Bommai and Revenue Minister R. Ashok, yet they did a volte-face after some time. In fact, after knowing about the initial decision of their Union leaders on news channels, some drivers and conductors had even resumed bus services across cities and towns yesterday night.

Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa accused Kodihalli Chandrashekar of instigating the transport employees to strike after leading thousands of farmers to participate in the nationwide shutdown against the three farm laws enacted by the Centre recently.

As Kodihalli Chandrashekar was leading the strike for a section of the employees, the State Government refused to talk to him as he is a farmer leader and has nothing to do with road transport.

Mysuru situation

In Mysuru, limited bus service operated amidst tight security. Many buses proceeded to Bengaluru accompanied by Policemen and KSRTC Vigilance Department staff. Also, skeleton services were operated to Mandya, Hassan, Chikkamagalur, Madikeri and Chamarajanagar.

City buses remained off the roads and passengers had to depend on autos and cabs to reach their destinations. Certain buses operated in city to faraway areas beyond the Ring Road and these buses had Police protection. Police PCR vehicles too moved in front of the buses to prevent stone pelting by miscreants on the Ring Road areas.

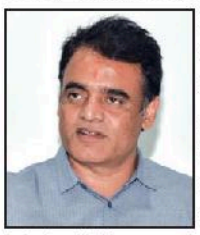
Minister visits bus stand

Mysuru District Minister S.T. Somashekar paid a visit to the Sub-Urban Bus Stand and took stock of the situation. He interacted with the passengers and also spoke to bus drivers and conductors. He appealed to them not to be misled by fake leaders like Kodihalli Chandrashekar who has no knowledge about transport sector.

"The demand to give the KSRTC staff the status of Government employees has not been accepted, as the State is not in a position to bear the additional financial burden," he added. The Minister maintained the Government would provide security for employees who would report for duty and warned of taking a tough stand against the protesters.

State to witness rapid growth in all fields post NEP implementation: Higher Education Minister

Bengaluru, Dec. 14 (KMS& SSV)- Karnataka, a leading State in IT/BT sector, will soon emerge as number one in Agriculture, Industry, services and Health Sector in some years after the implementation of National Education Policy (NEP), said Deputy Chief Minister and Higher Education Minister Dr. C.N. Ashwath Narayana.



Ashwath Narayana

Delivering the convocation address of the CMR University through virtual dais here on Saturday, he said the policy which has been formulated with a foresight would show a new direction to the country. It was going to benefit Karnataka than other States since a majority of persons in the drafting committee were Kannadigas.

"At present, Karnataka has achieved excellence in the field of Information Technology, Bio-Technology, Electronics, Research and other allied fields. The very face of conventional and academic-based education was going to change after NEP implementation. The State would make surprising development in the field of Industries, Agriculture, Horticulture, Irrigation, Health Services and Transport in the coming days," the Minister said.

He opined it was possible to find solutions to social and economic problems being faced by the country only through education.

Solution can be found out for all problems in education. It was possible to bring in visible changes in all fields if education was taken to every phase in society. The Task Force on draft NEP had already submitted its report and the recommendations were being looked into at the Government level. The officials were busy in making necessary changes in administrative and legal requirements for the NEP implementation. In all probability, the policy would be implemented in a phased manner from the coming year. "We are going to witness growth of State in all spheres through the power of knowledge", he said.

Justice Abdul Nazir, CMR Group of Institutions President and Rajya Sabha Member K.C. Ramamurthy, CMR University VC Dr. Sabita Ramamurthy and others were present.

NR Foundation extends helping hand to cause partners

Mysuru, Dec. 14 (KS)- NR Foundation, the philanthropic arm of agarbathi to aerospace conglomerate N. Ranga Rao and Sons, extended support to cause partners of their Karnataka Premier League (KPL) franchise, Mysuru Warriors.

The NR Foundation donated Rs. 1 lakh each to cause partners Reforest India (An organisation combating the alarming levels of carbon dioxide by planting trees in both rural and urban areas), Deutsche Cleft Kinderhlife (The organisation that is helping children combat cleft lip and palate all over the world.), Kalisu Foundation (A youth driven organisation that provides high quality education to children studying in government schools coming from low income background enabling them to maximise their potential and transforming their lives.) and Usha Kiran Eye Hospital (The Hospital working towards giving their patients a new lease of life through wide range of eye-care treatments.)

Speaking about the initiative, Arjun Ranga, Owner of Mysuru Warriors and Managing Director of Cycle Pure Agarbathi said that the cause partners had done exceptional work in their respective fields and was happy to see the changes that these organisations had brought over the years.

"Even though KPL could not be held this year due to outbreak COVID-19 pandemic, we wanted to support our cause partners and be with them always," he added.

VC inaugurates skill-based Under Graduate courses

Mysuru, Dec. 14- The Vice-Chancellor of University of Mysore Prof. G. Hemantha Kumar inaugurated the new professional programmes BBA and B.Sc. at Pooja Bhagavat Memorial Mahajana Education Centre, KRS Road, Metagalli, recently.

The programme was organised by Mahajana Education Society (MES) at Tourism Department auditorium. These new UG professional courses of BBA (Aviation and International Tourism), (Hotel and Hospitality); B.Sc. (Food Processing and Quality Management), (Forensic Science) and (Geology) have direct application in the industry and help students pursue a successful career.

In his inaugural address, Prof. Hemantha Kumar said that these programmes would help students shape their life by getting more and more job opportunities. "Skilled programmes have the ability to access job opportunities. These unique programmes would enable them to cater to the needs of the society and empower students to secure self-sustained livelihood opportunities," he said.

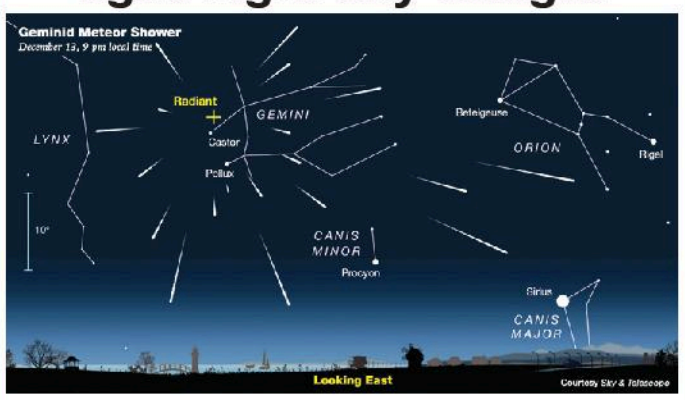
In his presidential address, MES President T. Muralidhar Bhagavat claimed that MES was the first institute in Mysuru to provide skill development programmes for UG students where syllabus for these courses were designed by expert scholars and academicians.

Director of Pooja Bhagavat Memorial Mahajana Post Graduate Centre Dr. C. K. Renukarya briefed about the structure of new professional programmes. Dr. Vijayalakshmi Muralidhar, Hon. Secretary, MES, Dr. Sathish G. Chetty, Professor and Head, Department (Aviation and Tourism), Cdr. H. N. Satish (Retd.), HoD (Tourism and Hospitality) Dr. Jayakumari, Principal, SBRR Mahajana First Grade College, Prof. S.R. Ramesh, CEO and Chief Scientist were present.

Premajyothi and team rendered invocation. Cdr. H.N. Satish welcomed. Dr. Satish G. Chetty proposed a vote of thanks. Students Darshan and Tenzin Kunsong compered.

ASTRONOMY

'Geminid' meteor shower to light night sky tonight



A 'shooting star' or 'meteor' is caused by a tiny particle of dust entering Earth's atmosphere. As it plunges downward, it experiences collision with air molecules and the friction generated causes the particle to glow and eventually burn up completely. Most meteors burn up at altitudes of around 100 Km. It is an exceptional celestial manifestation for sky observers that the extravagant yearly 'Geminid' showers will illuminate the night sky on Dec. 14. The Geminids are beautiful, prolific and reliable shower.

Dry, clear air will help a lot with the lunar glare, but it will be difficult to achieve maximum rates of 100 to 120 Geminids/hour even at the best sites. The shower has a skew rate profile, with activity dropping speedily after maximum. At the same time, the proportion of bright meteors is higher during and after maximum than on pre-maximum nights. The Geminids are worth watching for one or two mornings before the peak; there will be slightly less moonlight interference.

This time in India, Geminids are clearly visible in the night sky during 10 pm to 6 am.

Studies illustrate that the Geminids are rich in slow, bright, graceful meteors and bright fireballs, as well as faint meteors, with relatively fewer objects of medium brightness. But for the visibility of Geminid Meteor Shower, there is absolutely no difficulty at all. The night sky is completely free from moon and eventually may be possible to witness these meteor streaks. Peak activity is projected to fortuitously occur at or near 3 to 4 am on Dec. 14. Under normal conditions on the night of maximum activity, at least 60 to 120 Geminid meteors can be expected to burst across the sky every hour on the average.

During early morning hours of Dec.14 the peak rate for the 2020 Geminid meteor shower is predicted to be as high as 120 to 130 meteors per hour. The Geminid meteor shower is no exception, so the first step is to either stay up late or get up very early to observe the sky between midnight and dawn.

To see maximum number of meteors, go to a dark sky as far away from lights as reasonably possible. Allow time for your eyes to become adapted to dark. Use a red flashlight for light to preserve your night vision. Look up in the direction of the constellation Gemini or can look in the eastern half of the sky. No telescope or other optical device is needed. In fact telescopes or binoculars will limit stargazers making it nearly impossible to observe meteors.

The Geminids are accessible from the entire Northern Hemisphere and from many Southern Hemisphere locations as well. The radiant is highest in the sky at around 2 am, but from mid-northern latitudes it is at a decent elevation from around 10 pm until the beginning of morning twilight.

A productive Geminid watch can actually begin as early as 8 pm local time, because the showers radiant is already fairly high in the eastern sky, passing very near overhead. The higher a showers radiant, the more meteors it produces. The track of each one does not necessarily begin near Castor, nor even in the constellation Gemini, but it always turns out that the path of a Geminid extend backward along the direction of flight passes through a tiny region of sky about 0.2 in diameter. As such, this is a rather sharply defined radiant, as meteor showers go, suggesting the stream of space debris that fuels this shower is relatively young, perhaps a several thousand years old. Geminids stand apart from other meteor showers. They seem to have been spawned not by a comet, but by 3200 Phaeton, an asteroid that crosses the path of Earth's orbit. Geminids may be comet debris. Some astronomers consider Phaeton to really be the dead nucleus of a burned-out comet that somehow got trapped into an unusually tight orbit around the Sun.

—Dr. S.A. Mohan Krishna
Amateur Astronomer

Mysore Memories...

Kannada Literature's Gentle Giant

By Dr. S.N. Bhagirath

[Continued from yesterday]

Vi. Si.'s Bombay sojourn would come to an abrupt end owing to an unrelenting bout of malarial fever. He rushed back to recuperate. After a prolonged convalescence, he was all set to head back to Bombay. His long-time well-wisher and mentor T.S. Venkannayya persuaded Vi. Si. to drop his Bombay plans and stay back. Vi. Si. thankfully agreed to this.

Return to Karnataka

He once more joined Sarada Vilas High School in Mysore as a Kannada teacher. He taught here from 1923 till 1928 and all the while contributed regularly to 'Prabuddha Karnataka', 'Aruna', 'Rashtra Bandhu' and 'Artha Sadaka'.

After B.M. Srikantaiah was appointed Registrar of UoM in 1927, he began to scout around for the right people to populate the newly commissioned Kannada Department. This was with an eye to start an M.A. course in Kannada at the University. T. S. Venkannayya was among the first to be selected for this new Department. Even though Vi. Si. was an 'Economics' man by training, his proficiency in Kannada was well-known to B.M. Srikantaiah and thus he was able to convince Vi. Si. to accept a Lecturer's position in the Kannada Department at Bangalore Central College. Vi. Si. taught Kannada at Central College from 1928 till 1942. Following a promotion in 1943, he returned to Maharaja's College, Mysore where he continued till 1948. For the next two years, he was requested to head the Intermediate College at Chikamagalur first as Superintendent and then as Principal. From 1950 onwards, he would head the Kannada Department at Central College till his retirement in 1955.

During these four decades, his colleagues included the likes of G.P. Rajarathnam, A.R. Krishna Shastry, K.V. Puttappa, T.N. Srikantaiah, D.L. Narasimhachar, M.V. Sitaramaiah and S. Srikanta Sastri. Among his illustrious students were B.G.L. Swamy, R.K. Laxman, A.K. Ramanujam, H.Y. Sharada Prasad, S.V. Parameshwara Bhatta, H.M. Nayak, G. S. Shivarudrappa, L. S. Sheshagiri Rao, H. M. Shankar Narayan Rao and Chi. Na. Mangala.

Following his retirement, Vi. Si. joined Akashvani Bangalore as producer of 'Spoken Word' series from 1956 till 1958. From 1964 till 1968, he headed the newly established Arts and Science First Grade College at Honnavara as Principal. In 1968, he was recalled to Bangalore at the behest of India Book House (IBH) for a mammoth project to encapsulate all of Kannada poetry from Kaviraja Nayakara (Nrupatunga) to Navodaya's Muddanna! This almost encyclopaedic endeavour was entrusted under Vi. Si.'s leadership and he succeeded in bringing out a collection of 30 books titled "Kannada Kavi Kavya Parampare." This bears testament to his Editorial capabilities.

V. Seetharamaiah (Vi. Si.)

Personal life

V. Seetharamaiah was a man of short stature and rather frail constitution. His typical everyday attire would include a neatly pressed white dhoti *(Kache Panche),* a woollen coat, turban (Mysuru rumalu), black rimmed spectacles and a soft pair of sandals. Always genteel in his manners and soft spoken, Vi. Si. was best described by D.V. Gundappa when he remarked: "He is goodness personified."

T.S. Venkannayya, a well-wisher and mentor to Vi. Si. was a regular visitor at his Bangalore residence. Venkannayya was a very tall man and had to bow down to prevent his head from striking against the door frame of Vi. Si.'s house at Chamarajpet. This was unacceptable to Vi. Si. and he went out of his way to get the whole door frame removed and replaced with a wider, taller one, just so that his mentor and friend could come in without having to bow down every single time! Such was his spirit of generosity. To paraphrase one of his friends: "Vi. Si. was generous to the extent of ruining himself!"

Vi. Si. married Sarojamma in 1925. They had seven children. Their fifty years of marriage came to an end in 1974 when Vi. Si. lost his wife to ill health.

Vi. Si. travelled widely within India, even visiting Rabindranath Tagore's Shantiniketan. His visit to UK in 1974 — the culmination of a life-long desire to visit the land of Shakespeare, Chaucer and Milton — sadly wasn't a happy one! Upon his arrival in London, Vi. Si. suffered a debilitating stroke and was hospitalised for a fortnight. He could see precious little of the many places he had so zealously wanted to see all his life. He returned to India gravely disappointed.

Writing

Vi.Si. published his first Kannada poem as well as his first work of Kannada prose in 'Prabuddha Karnataka' under the aegis of A. R. Krishna Shastry. Vi. Si. himself would eventually assume Editorship of 'Prabuddha Karnataka' later on. For a period spanning fifty years, Vi. Si. churned out nearly sixty works which included 8 anthologies of Kannada poems, 36 works of Kannada prose, 10 translations from English to Kannada and 10 biographical sketches written in English. This was in addition to his vast Editorial work which included the likes of "Kannada Kavi Kavya Parampare". He always remembered the trio of Masti Venkatesh Iyengar, D. V. Gundappa and Panje Mangesha Rao as the ones who really groomed his literary career. Vi. Si. was a regular contributor to periodicals like 'The Hindu', 'Deccan Herald', 'Indian P. E. N.', 'Aryan Path' and 'Triveni'.

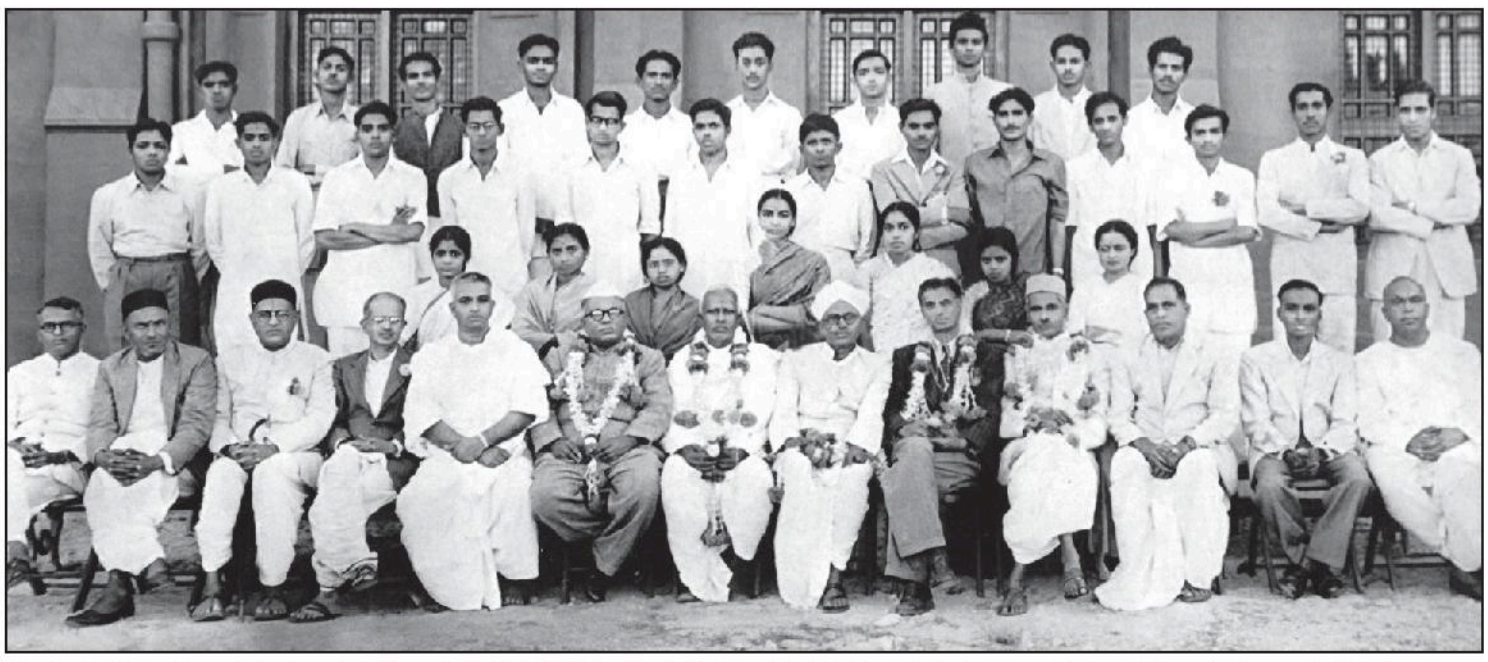
Recognition

Vi. Si. chaired the Poetry division of Kannada Sahitya Sammelan held at Karwar in 1931, when he was just 36 years old. He presided over the 36th Kannada Sahitya Sammelan at Kumta in 1954. Vi. Si. was a honorary member of "P. E. N. Kendra Sahitya Akademi Prashasthi Committee" as well as the "Jnanpith Prashasthi Committee". He was awarded the 'Kannada Sahitya Academy Award' in 1973. He received Festschrift volumes 'Vi Si' and 'Vi Si - 75' replete with contributions from literary stalwarts of his time. UoM conferred on him a Honorary Doctorate (D. Litt) in 1976. This great soul, the very treasure of the world of Kannada literature, breathed his last on Sept. 4, 1983 at Bangalore, aged 83 years.

He lives through his many books, heartfelt poems and scores of students who had the rare privilege of benefitting from his humane, enriching and remarkable tutelage. This is a small tribute to Vi. Si., a rare gem in his own right. May we see more of his kind. He was, indeed, goodness personified.

(bugs2beatles@gmail.com)

[References: 1. "V. Seetharamaiah" – biographical book by Prof M. Ramachandra (2009); 2. "V. Seetharamaiah" – Personality & Poetry – Vi. Si. Sampada (1991); 3. "V. Seetharamaiah – Smarane" – a book by M. V. Venkatesh Murthy; 4. "Sarthaka Baduku" – by Dr. B. P. Radhakrishna; 5. "Vi. Si. Noorara Nenapu"; 6. Portrait Photo Courtesy: K.G. Somsekhar]



Central College 'Karnataka Sangha', Bangalore (1942): *(sitting on chairs from left)* ***K.S. Narasimha Swamy, Asthan Vidwan Motaganahalli Subramanya Sastri, D.L. Narasimhachar, R. L. Narasimaiah, S. Raja Ratnam, S.V. Krishnamurthy Rao, Name Unknown, Name Unknown, V. Seetharamaiah, S.V. Srinivasa Rao, T.S. Venkannayya, Name Unknown, T.S. Shama Rao and K.V. Iyer.***

River rafting resumes at Dubare

Popular tourist activity was closed since March following COVID outbreak

Kushalnagar, Dec. 14 (Akshay & BCT)- River rafting, a popular activity among tourists coming to Dubare near Kushalnagar in Kodagu, has resumed after a long break. This comes in the wake of Deputy Commissioner Annies Kanmani Joy permitting operators to resume rafting after stringently following COVID precautions.

The activity began on Dec. 12 with six boats that are carrying six persons each and a guide into the river. These six boats have been permitted as of now as they have already renewed their licences. There are 34 rafting boats in Dubare and the remaining boats will be operational by 15 days after they renew their licences.

Rafting had been suspended in March after the outbreak of COVID-19. A few days ago, Kodagu DC held a meeting with rafters and permitted them to resume rafting with precautions. Rafting owners had been desperately waiting for the business to reopen.

Rafting usually starts once the inflow into the Cauvery River increases and the level rises. A raft is a rubberised, inflatable boat where rafters have to row. These are not mechanised rafts as they are not allowed in the river.

As one hits the rapids (a section of the river where the water moves very fast particularly over or bisecting the rocks), there is a rush of adrenalin as the boat sways to the sheer force of the water. The thrill, however, is not without a certain amount of risk though the rafters wear enough gadgets, including life jackets.

Tourists get ready for a ride on a raft after wearing lifejackets.

Boats being disinfected after the ride.

'Stillwater' season

June to November is the 'whitewater' season and November to June is 'stillwater' season. Whitewater is formed in a rapid, when a river's gradient changes enough to generate so much turbulence that air is trapped within the water. This forms an unstable current that froths, making the water appear opaque and white. Stillwater is part of a stream where no water current is visible.

There has been a huge demand for rafting soon after it was opened. On the first day itself, there were more than 250 people who lined up for rafting and the second day yesterday witnessed a crowd of more than 350 people, said Tourism Department officers. The rafting activity is run and managed by the Tourism Department and Dubare Rafters Association.

COVID protocol followed

The present 'stillwater' rafting activity is a ride for one-and-a-half kilometres and Rs. 200 is charged per person. It is a 30 to 40-minute ride and if the number of tourists is less, the activity can go up to one hour. As per the COVID protocol, wearing of masks and social distancing is mandatory. The lifejackets worn by rafters are disinfected after each use and are dried under the sun. Even boats are disinfected after each trip.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, C.L. Vishwa, President of Dubare Rafters Association, said that they were under severe losses since March as rafting was not permitted even after lockdown. "Many guides and people who were dependent on this trade had switched to manual labour in coffee estates to earn a living. We have got a new lease of life and we will follow all the guidelines," said Manish, the Rafting Guides Association President.

Host of permissions

As per rules, water rafting now starts at a common point. Earlier, rafting was being held at multiple points and thus was difficult to monitor. Operators must secure permission from the Departments of Police, Forests, Fire Force and Tourism, local Panchayat and Pollution Control Board. They need to possess fitness certificate for their rafts.

Operators have to employ trained guards to accompany the rafters. Every one of them should have identity cards issued by the Department of Tourism and should be trained in first-aid methods. Smoking and drinking is prohibited during rafting. The rafters should also obtain permission from the Karnataka Inland Water Transport Department.

Though rafting in Dubare was quite popular, it was banned by the Kodagu district administration in February 2018. It was re-started in July 2019. In 2018, the Kodagu DC had banned rafting after a tourist from Hyderabad got into an argument with an organiser and was killed in the ensuing altercation.

Give top priority to cultivate coffee naturally in Kodagu

Ponnampet Forestry College Dean calls upon growers to maintain quality from estate to cuppa; 18th AGM of Kodagu Mahila Coffee Jagruthi Sangha held

Madikeri, Dec. 14 (PS&BCT)- Coffee growers should give priority for cultivating tasty coffee naturally, said Ponnampet Forestry College Dean Dr. Cheppudira G. Kushalappa.

He was speaking at the 18th Annual General Body meeting of Kodagu Mahila Coffee Jagruthi Sangha held at a private hotel in Madikeri recently. Though Vietnam and Brazil produces large quantity of coffee, they are unable to get back the amount invested in coffee cultivation. They use highest quality of fertilisers to cultivate the crop and most of the finances are drained out here.

The growers of Kodagu must concentrate on cultivating coffee naturally by reducing the use of fertilisers. There are 360 species of trees inside the coffee estates in Kodagu. As a result, the ground gets good manure. This is the reason why Kodagu coffee is famous across the world.

"The undeniable natural beauty and abundance in Kodagu — from rainfall to fertile soil and diverse water sources — has made the region a highly sought-after location to cultivate coffee. Coffee flourishes in a unique blend of climatic conditions that includes humidity, heat and rainfall. Kodagu is ideal for these conditions and the slopes of the Western Ghats ensure orthographic rainfall that measure between 60 to 80 inches," he said.

The abundant species of shaded trees work together in a two-tier system to protect coffee plants. These trees also prevent soil erosion and provide mulch to act as fertiliser. "The soil of Kodagu is rich with nitrogenous material and has a good sub-surface drainage," he said and called upon growers to maintain quality from the estate to the cuppa.

Coffee Board quality expert Vikram Kuttaiah said that the prices of coffee have not increased drastically for the last 25 years. The maintenance of Arabica coffee was Rs. 25,000 per acre 25 years ago and now it has reached Rs. 80,000 per acre. The maintenance of Robusta variety has increased from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 60,000.

"The maintenance costs have increased manifold but the prices of coffee has remained stagnant. There is a huge disparity between production costs and end profits. There is a situation where the grower has to be satisfied with meagre income," he explained.

Kodagu Mahila Coffee Jagruthi Sangha President Pandikuthira Chitra Subbaiah said that the Sangha has been creating awareness about Coorg Coffee since the last 18 years. Sangha Director Kumari Kunjappa has been provided permission by Kodagu District Administration to open an outlet at Coorg Village that is coming up near Raja's Seat in Madikeri, she said.

WORD OF THE DAY

Avuncular

Pronunciation: uh-vuhng-kyuh-ler.
Meaning: Acting like an uncle, as in being kind, patient, generous, etc., especially to younger people.
Origin: Avuncular typically means "acting in a kindly, benevolent manner towards one's nieces and nephews." Avuncular comes from the Latin noun avunculus "mother's brother, uncle," a derivative of the noun avus "grandfather, forefather, ancestor." (English uncle comes via Old French and Anglo-French oncle, uncle from avunculus.) Latin avus comes from Proto-Indo-European awos "grandfather, maternal grandfather." Awo– is also the source for Armenian hav "grandfather," Old Irish áue, Middle Irish ó(a), úa, both meaning "grandson, descendant," and the source of O' in Gaelic surnames, such as O'Connor "descendant of Connor." Variants of the stem appear in Lithuanian avýnas "maternal uncle," Old Prussian awis, and Old Church Slavonic ujĭ, both meaning "uncle." Avuncular entered English in the first half of the 19th century.

THE ODD WORD

Walm

To spout; to boil up.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

A nod is as good as a wink

Meaning: Expresses the idea that, to a person who is ready to understand or undertake something, any subtle signalling of it is sufficient. The context is usually of some undertaking that is borderline illegal or of sexual innuendo.
Origin: This proverbial saying sounds as if it might be quite modern but it is in fact a 16th century phrase originating in England. The longer version of the phrase is 'a nod is as good as a wink to a blind horse'. It might seem that this is just an elaboration of the shorter version, but it appears that the 'blind horse' version was in fact the original. The earliest examples of the proverb in print all give the fuller version, for example, in the Letters of the English lawyer and writer Joseph Ritson, February 1793:
A nod, you know, is as good as a wink to a blind horse. It seems intuitive to interpret the longer version as meaning 'neither a nod nor a wink has any purpose, both being equally pointless'. Nevertheless, the context of the early uses has it being used with the same apparent meaning as the short version, that is, 'you may nod or wink - I will take your meaning either way'. During the 19th century the expression began to be shortened and the blind horse was left at home. Citations from that period use the form 'a nod is as good as a wink etc.', which clearly indicates that the later usage was simply a shorthand way of writing the original. More recently, the expression has gained currency in the form of "a nod is as good as a wink to a blind bat", which Eric Idle used in his 'Nudge, nudge' sketch in Monty Python's Flying Circus.

QUOTE BOX

There are times when even the most potent governor must wink at transgression, in order to preserve the laws inviolate for the future. **—Herman Melville**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

Answer: A sign of appreciation.

SUDOKU

				5	3	9	2	
9		7	6					
				7		4		
	2		7				5	8
6	7				8		4	
		1		3				
					9	8		3
	8	9	5	2				

Answer to previous puzzle

2	4	6	8	9	7	3	1	5
7	3	8	5	1	6	9	2	4
1	5	9	3	4	2	6	8	7
6	9	5	4	3	1	2	7	8
4	8	1	7	2	9	5	3	6
3	2	7	6	8	5	1	4	9
5	7	3	2	6	8	4	9	1
8	1	4	9	5	3	7	6	2
9	6	2	1	7	4	8	5	3

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

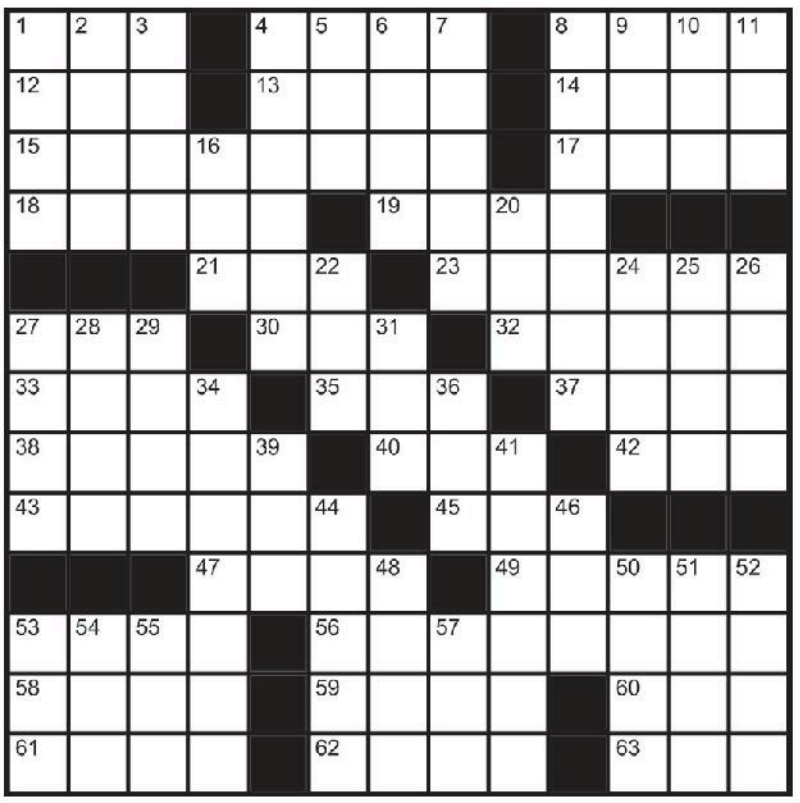
CROSS WORD

ACROSS:
1 British Empire Medal, abbr.
4 Form of written command; a decree
8 Skin affliction
12 American medical association, in short
13 Top-notch (1-3)
14 Plant part
15 Luxuriant existence (4,4)
17 Boy band 'N ___
18 Severe test
19 Oklahoma Indian
21 Acquired or procured
23 Composer of The Messiah
27 TV network
30 For each
32 Destiny, fate
33 Extracts of almonds or coconuts?
35 Suffer
37 Joint of meat - "lion" anagram?
38 Cover with fabric
40 Empty space
42 Educational org.
43 Part of speech
45 Female bovine
47 Complain or nag; small bed for an infant
49 Holy book for the Jews
53 Our Prime Minister Narendra ___
56 Seppuku (4-4)
58 An extent of land
59 Be adjacent to
60 Something to spend in Afghanistan
61 Be dizzy?
62 San ___ : Italian city?
63 Rock musician Brian

DOWN
1 Currency unit of Thailand
2 Moslem leader
3 Wisemen
4 Beat or thrash
5 French king
6 "Information" in short?
7 Incisors, canines, etc
8 Military store
9 Affectedly devious
10 Not, as a prefix?
11 And so on abbr.
16 An ugly old woman
20 Sturdy tree
22 Afternoon drink
24 Allow to fall
25 Give off
26 Old time Hollywood star Turner
27 Musical finale
28 Respected umpire Dickie ___
29 East European
31 Bombay High oil installation?
34 Exceptional
36 Dark red resin
39 Go wrong
41 An edible tuber
44 Patna's state
46 Hunan pan
48 Infant
50 When fruit is this it should be picked
51 ___ Lal :Cricket commentator
52 Hawaiian city
53 Spoil or damage
54 Mineral which yields metal
55 Scottish river
57 Cane spirit

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

M	E	M	O		V	I	A	L		C	O	P
E	Y	O	T		E	R	L	E		A	S	O
N	E	A	T		T	A	L	E	N	T	E	D
U	R	B	A	N	E		A	R	E	A		
			W	O	R	T	H		A	C	E	R
I	G	U	A	N	A	S		A	R	O	S	E
S	A	N		E	N	A	C	T		M	A	T
M	I	D	S	T		R	H	O	M	B	U	S
S	T	E	P		O	S	A	M	A			
		R	U	E	S		U	S	H	E	R	S
E	L	D	R	I	T	C	H		I	M	A	M
N	E	O		N	E	H	A		M	I	R	E
T	U	G		E	O	I	N		A	T	E	E



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

O LWQSBK'X DEOX HWA JQLLMJJ, JW O

DMKX EVMEB DOXVWQX OX.

TODAY'S CLUE: L EQUALS C

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: The greatest conflicts are not between two people but between one person and himself.

Australian Open delayed by three weeks

To start on February 8, 2021: Report

Melbourne, Dec. 14 (Agencies)- The Australian Open Tennis Grand Slam will start three weeks late on Feb. 8, reports said on Wednesday, with players cleared to train during quarantine following lengthy negotiations with State authorities.

According to Australian media, the start date was announced to players by Tournament Director Craig Tiley.

If confirmed, it will join the three other major tournaments in being disrupted by the Coronavirus.

Tennis Australia has been in protracted talks with Victoria State authorities in Melbourne, which only emerged from a months-long lockdown in October following a second wave of cases.

"It's taken a while, but the great news is it looks like we are going to be able to hold the AO (Australian Open) on 8 February," Tiley was quoted as telling players in a leaked letter.

However, Tennis Australia did not confirm the reports on Wednesday, and said plans were still awaiting approval from the State Government.

EVENTS TODAY (DEC. 14)

- **PGL Samsmarana Vedike:** 14th year music concert in memory of Keerthishesha Vid. P.G. Lakshminarayana, Karnatak vocal concert by Vidu. M.R. Sudha, accompanied by Dr. Veena Suresh on violin, Vidu. Kanchana Eashwara Bhat on mridanga and Vid. V.S. Ramesh on morching, Vasudevacharya Bhavan, JLB Road, **6 pm.** [Facebook: *https://www.facebook.com/MridangammaestroPGL/*]
- **JSS Mahavidyapeetha - Sri Shivarathreeshwara Religious Endowment:** Jnana Varidhi-2 Digital Lecture Programme, Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji graces the occasion, Cardiologist Dr. Vijayalakshmi Balekundri speaks on 'Health-Culture,' [YouTube: *http://Youtube.com/c/JSSMahavidyapeethaonline*; Facebook: *https://www.facebook.com/JSSMVP* or *http://jssonline.org*]

EVENTS TOMORROW (DEC. 15)

- **K.K. Hebbar Art Foundation:** Airing of radio serial titled 'Kala Tapaswi K.K. Hebbar' produced by K.K. Hebbar Art Foundation on FM Rainbow 101.3Mhz and All India Radio (AIR), **2.02 pm to 2.07 pm.** [Mob: 98452-44756]
- **South Western Railway (SWR), Mysuru Division:** Nation-wide Pension Adalat, Additional Divisional Railway Manager chairs the Adalat, Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Mysuru, **11 am.**

NOW SHOWING - MOVIES

DRC CINEMAS Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Tenet (E)	(S-1)	4.15 pm
	(S-2)	10.50 am
	(S-3)	1.25 pm
	(S-4)	6.55 pm, 9.55 pm
Indoo Ki Jawani (H)	(S-1)	7.20 pm, 9.55 pm
	(S-4)	11 am, 1.40 pm, 4.15 pm
Act-1978 (K)	(S-3)	4.30 pm, 7.15 pm
		9.55 pm
Corona Virus (Te)	(S-2)	7.30 pm
Sadhane Shikara (K)		
Pursoth Rama (K)	(S-2)	1.55 pm, 4.40 pm

INOX LIVE THE MOVIE Ph: 2533444 / 2533456

Indoo Ki Jawani (H)	(S-1)	10.25 am, 1.20 pm
		4.10 pm, 7 pm, 9.55 pm
Tenet (E)	(S-2)	10.45 am, 2.05 pm
		5.30 pm, 9.00
	(S-3)	9.45 pm
Act-1978 (K)	(S-3)	10.55 am
Corona Virus (Te)	(S-3)	1.55 pm
Sadhane Shikara (K)	(S-3)	4.10 pm
Pursoth Rama (K)	(S-3)	6.40 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15 to the film announced here. **The other multiplexes and single screen theatres are yet to open.**

Hero Indian Super League 2020-21

NorthEast - Chennaiyin match ends in goalless draw

Vasco, Dec. 14- NorthEast United FC played out a 0-0 draw with Chennaiyin FC at the Tilak Maidan Stadium in Vasco in Super Sunday's first game. Both sides defended with discipline and couldn't quite find the right finish when in promising areas as NorthEast maintained their unbeaten start to Hero Indian Super League (Hero ISL) 2020-21.

Chennaiyin began positively and were close to going in front in the opening minute of the contest when Lallianzuala Chhangte ran into the box with the ball before attempting to slot a shot in at the far post only for Gurmeet to dive to his right and make a save. Edwin Vanspaul then witnessed his left-footed attempt from the edge of the penalty area in the 6th minute go just wide of goal.

NorthEast United and Chennaiyin players tackle for the ball during the match which ended in a goalless draw at Vasco yesterday.

Vanspaul then went up the other end for Chennaiyin and forced NorthEast's goalkeeper into an easy save as the teams went into the break goalless.

The closing stages of the contest saw both teams create half chances. However, the teams had to settle for a draw and share the spoils.

Hero of the Match – Khassa Camara; **DHL Winning Pass of the Match –** Rochharzela (NorthEast United FC).

Bengaluru overpower Kerala Blasters in a six-goal thriller

Margao, Dec. 14- Bengaluru picked up their second win of Hero Indian Super League (Hero ISL) 2020-21 after beating Kerala Blasters 4-2 at the Fatorda Stadium yesterday.

The Blasters took the lead and it was another counter attack that led to the goal.

Bengaluru players celebrate after scoring a goal against Kerala Blasters in yesterday's second match at Fatorda Stadium in Margao.

This time it was Gary Hooper who drove at Bengaluru's defence before passing it square to Rahul, who finished with aplomb to make it 1-0 for Kerala. Bengaluru weren't behind for too long though and scored the equalizer 12 minutes later when Silva made the most of Lalruatthara's sliced half-clearance by producing a first-time finish into the bottom right corner to level the score1-1.

The second half began with Bakary Kone conceding a penalty following a mistimed tackle in the box. The Blues then recovered from the disappointment of missing the penalty by taking the lead in the 51st minute 2-1. Bengaluru went on to extend their lead two minutes later after Silva won the ball near Kerala's penalty area and crossed it for Delgado, who opened up his body and produced a graceful finish to make it 3-1 for the Blues.

Kerala weren't ready to throw in the towel yet after Bengaluru's third goal. They pulled one back after the hour mark when Murray managed to get a touch on a flicked-on free-kick to make it 3-2. But their joy was short-lived as Chhetri with a thunderous header past the goalkeeper from a Harmanjot Khabra cross in the 65th minute to make it 4-2.

The Blasters did have a few more set-piece opportunities to get back into the match but Bengaluru's defence held firm and secured the three points.

Hero of the Match – Dimas Delgado; **DHL Winning Pass of the Match –** Harmanjot Khabra (Bengaluru FC).

Today's Match (Dec. 14)

MUMBAI CITY
Vs
JAMSHEDPUR
GMC Stadium,
Bambolim, Goa, **7.30 pm**

Tomorrow's Match (Dec. 15)

HYDERABAD
Vs
EAST BENGAL
Tilak Maidan Stadium,
Vasco da Gama, Goa, **7.30 pm**

Yesterday's Result

NORTHEAST UNITED - 0
Drew with
CHENNAIYIN - 0

BENGALURU - 4
Beat
KERALA BLASTERS – 2

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2	Estimated Cost	Rs.18,40,000/-(Rupees Eighteen Lakhs Forty Thousand only)
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5	Tender Processing Fee	Rs. 1086/- e-payment through electronic mode (Non- returnable) in favour of 'M/s ITI Limited, New Delhi'
6	Period of Completion	12 (Twelve) calendar months including monsoon period.
7	Request for purchase /Download of Tender Document (excel / word formats)	From 11/12/2020 (11:00 Hrs.) to 28/12/2020 (15:00 Hrs.) on website www.tenderwizard.com/DAE.
8	Last date and time for closing of online submission of tenders:	29/12/2020 (15:00 Hrs.)
9	Last date for submission of original documents towards receipt of e-payment towards Tender Processing Fee	On or before 04/01/2021 (15:00 Hrs.) at Superintending Engineer's office in a sealed super scribed envelope mentioning name of work and NIT Number. Original documents should be submitted preferably in person. However documents sent by post or courier will also be considered provided the same is received within due date & time.
10	Date and time for online opening of Part 1	06/01/2021 (15:00Hrs)
12	Date of opening for Part 2 of qualified bidders	20/01/2021

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Printed by T.S. Gopinath and published by M. Govinde Gowda on behalf of Academy Newspapers Private Limited at Academy Newspapers Private Limited, 15-C, Industrial 'A' Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570 015. Editor: M. Govinde Gowda. Phone: 2496520/2496521/2496523/ 2496526/2496527/2496528 Fax: 0821-2496525, 2496530. City offices: Visveshwaraya Building, III Floor, K.R. CIRCLE, Mysuru-570 001, Ph: 2431774 and No. 114, D.Devaraj Urs Road, Mysuru-570 001, Ph: 2428695, E-mail address: voice@starofmysore.com, For Advertisements: ad@starofmysore.com, RNI Reg. No. 29894/78.